

Boston, Mass., April 6, 1956, A.C. 838

OFFICIAL ORDER NO. 3
Series 1955-1956

GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICERS, COMMANDERS AND RECORDERS

Sir Knights:

It has been called to my attention that some Commanderies, since receiving the Ritual Changes issued by Grand Encampment (which were adopted at the 46th Triennial Conclave held in New York August 20 to 26 inclusive, 1955), have been using an "exemplar" when the class was less than eleven (11) postulants. I must therefore call your attention to the note to be placed on Page 89 of your Ritual:

"In the event that it is absolutely necessary to confer THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE upon more than eleven (11) postulants at a single Conclave, it shall be permissible to use an 'exemplar' for certain portions of the 'work' as indicated. Such an 'exemplar' is permissible in portraying the 'Three Years of Pilgrimage' and the 'Three Years of Warfare' but all candidates must participate in the vow (Page 106) and the declaration (Lines 20-22, Page 107). Also see Optional Rubric No.2."

It is my understanding that an "exemplar" can only be used when the number exceeds eleven (11) postulants.

I will also call your attention to QUESTION No. 3, which was submitted to the COMMITTEE ON RITUALISTIC MATTERS at the Triennial Conclave:

QUESTION No. 3 - "In The Order of The Temple, what portion of the Ritual must be conferred on each candidate separately?"

APPROVED ANSWER No. 3

"The last paragraph of General Rules on Page 1 of the Ritual, and previously approved decisions would seem to answer this question. Where there is a class or group of candidates, eleven of these may participate in the First Four Libations at the Triangle at one time. Each candidate must participate separately in the Fifth Libation." (Line 7, Page 120, through Line 15, Page 124)

"There can be only one Triangle in use in the Asylum during the conferring of the Order of The Temple under presently existing Templar Law."

It is my ORDER that each Commandery strictly adhere to the above regulations until further notice issued by me.

Given under my hand and the Seal of this Grand Commandery on this sixth day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty Six.

Courteously yours,

MORTIMER W. SCHROEDER
Grand Commander

ATTEST:

GEORGE A. WEEKS

GRAND RECORDER

